

Sellwood Weekly News

09-23-2015



[SCHOOL NEWS](#) [PTA](#) [FOUNDATION](#) [PEAK](#) [PIL ATHLETICS](#)

SCHOOL NEWS

Mark Your Calendar

This Week

9/23 - Meals on
Wheels

Plan Ahead

10/9 - No School

10/13 -
AVID Family Nite,
details to follow

10/14 - Late
Opening, 11:05
am

10/16 - Scholastic
Book Fair opens
thru 10/22

10/16 -

From Your Administrators

Greetings Sellwood Families,

We want to thank you all for coming to our Open House last week. As expected, we had a very large crowd, and the cool night soon turned hot and muggy as the evening progressed. Despite it all, we deeply appreciate you coming. We also apologize if there was any confusion about conference scheduling. Next year we will do it all on line, but this year a few teachers opted to have physical sign ups. If you did not get a chance to sign up for conferences, please email your teacher about how to sign up. Aside from that, we hope you had an enjoyable evening.

Last week PPS Board Member Dr. Julie Esparza Brown visited Sellwood. We had a great talk about our school and gave her the full tour. Dr. Esparza Brown was very impressed with our students and staff and it was an amazing opportunity to showcase all Sellwood has to offer.

Grandparents and
Special Friends
Day, 10 am

10/18 - Sellwood
5K, 8:30 am

10/20 -
Foundation Mtg, 6
pm
PTA mtg, 7 pm

10/21 - No School,
Conferences

10/22 - No School,
Conferences

10/23 - No School

10/30 - No School

11/6 - Makeup
Picture Day

11/11 - No School

[Sellwood Calendar](#)

[PPS Calendar \(pick
language\)](#)

The Smarter Balance assessment data has been released by the State. You can find this data on the Portland Public website www.pps.k12.or.us or on the Department of Education web site at www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=1302. In late October, your students' scores will be mailed home to you. PPS outperformed the State averages, and Sellwood students outperformed both the State and PPS, but there are areas of concern which we will be discussing with our staff and site council. Our % of participation fell below the expected 95% because of parents opting out, and we are hoping more parents will allow their students to participate in this years' assessments.

LGBTQ Ally Week is taking place this year on September 28 - October 2, 2015. It is a national dialogue about how everyone -- in and out of school -- can work to become better allies to LGBTQ youth. We know that allyship is about more than broadly supporting LGBTQ people; it's an active, ongoing process of advocating for LGBTQ youth (and other marginalized groups) without speaking for them or over them. During Ally Week, we challenge one another to think critically about what allyship means, how we are allies to others, and what kind of allies we seek out for ourselves. On Tuesday of Ally Week, peer helpers will be doing brief presentations during 1st Period classes on how to be an ally. At lunch on Tuesday and Thursday during Ally Week students will be able to participate in a photo pledge to be an ally. This will be made into a banner to be displayed at the school.

On a final note, please remember that all youth under 16 years of age, are required by law to wear properly buckled helmets when riding skateboard, bikes, scooters, etc. It is the law and we are constantly reminding students that buckled helmets must be worn at all times. If students continue to ride without helmets, they will be unable to bring them to school. If it still continues, a \$25 citation will be given from our School Resource Officer. We would love your help in

reinforcing this expectation. Our goal must always be student safety, so if you have any financial issue in regards to purchasing a helmet, let us know and we will get one for your student. Thank you and have a great week.

Brian and Marylyn.

Outdoor School (ODS)

Sellwood 6th graders will be going to Outdoor School this fall, leaving on Sunday, Nov. 1st at 2:30pm and returning on Friday, Nov. 6th at 1:30pm. Students should have received packets from their block teachers providing parents with specific information about location, cost, etc. In addition, linked below are the payment form (cost this year is \$85) and parent letter that went out. If you have any questions, please contact your student's block teacher, all of whose emails are published on the Sellwood Middle School website.

[2015 ODS Payment Form](#)

[2015 ODS Parent Letter](#)

PPS Family, Student & Staff Communication

PPS is shifting family, student and staff communication to a new tool that gives schools the ability to send texts about emergencies, closures, delays and other important news. To receive text notifications, you must opt in to the service. You opt in by texting YES to 68453. Parents and students should confirm their cell numbers are listed in the student information system. Staff should confirm their cell numbers are the "primary" number in the PeopleSoft system. For more info about testing, go to www.pps.net and click on the "Mobile First" button.

Warriors Youth Football needs your support!

We'd like to invite you to come enjoy some grid-iron action! This Saturday your friends and classmates in Warriors Youth Football have their first home game versus Madison Senators. Come out and enjoy some football and support our young Warriors. We have teams at the 3rd/4th, 5th/6th, and 7th/8th grade levels playing at the Cleveland High School field at 9am, 11am, and 1pm respectively. The gate fee is \$2 and there are concessions available. We'd love to see you there.

Would you like to serve on the Sellwood Site Council?

The Site Council will meet monthly (after school) for about an hour. The Site Council is a group of four parents, four teachers and the principal and is a 2-year term. This group monitors District and school goals for academic achievement improvement, using input from stakeholders along with data. The Council oversees the Comprehensive Achievement Plan (CAP) previously known as the School Improvement Plan.

Responsibilities of the Council include:

- * Planning professional development activities
- * Developing and implementing parent satisfaction surveys
- * Writing financial grant-in-aid for the benefit of Sellwood students

If interested, please send a two paragraph introduction and detail why you feel you want to contribute to Site Council. Please send to Brian at banderson@pps.net. There is only room for three parents since one parent is returning, but your interest is greatly appreciated. Our first meeting will be held in November and we generally meet from 4:00-5:00 on a day that will be determined. Hard copies will also be in the office if needed. Please turn in by October 16th.

Thank you

PTA

Meals on Wheels

Many senior citizens and people with disabilities in our own community depend on meals delivered every day by the Meals on Wheels Organization. Sellwood Middle School students (and parents) have a wonderful opportunity to help with this cause. Once a week, on Wednesday, students and a parent driver will deliver meals in the Southeast neighborhood. Students who sign up will be excused from 3rd period and will return during lunch. Students are paired with other students from their grade level. Most students will only participate twice during the year. As with all absences, students will be expected to make up any work missed in class.

This is a great community service opportunity; please encourage your children to participate!

If you have any questions please contact Kathy Hart at hartomatic@aol.com. The form for participation can be found here: [Meals on Wheels](#)



Save the Date!

The Sellwood Middle School Run/Walk for Education is returning on **Sunday, October 18th**. Please sign up for this amazing community event that supports our Middle School raising funds for teaching and staffing positions. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, sponsor the event or donate an item to the raffle please contact Kathy Hart at hartomatic@aol.com . The family sponsorship form is available here: [Family Sponsorship](#)

Register now to get in on all the fun!

Family Rate \$75/4 entries

Adults \$25

Students \$15

Kids 1k Free

Commemorative T-Shirt \$15

www.sellwoodmiddle.ejoinme.org/5k

Support the Foundation

Supporting the SMS electives is as easy as 1-2-3!

- 1) Visit www.allhandsraised.org
- 2) Click the "donate now" button
- 3) Choose "Sellwood Middle School"

Questions? Interested in volunteering? Contact Stacey Lovett at lovettstacey@hotmail.com

PEAK

Welcome back to another Sellwood PEAK School year.

There are a variety of PEAK Classes that will be open for your children during the Fall PEAK Session.

The **Drama PEAK Class** will present, The Sound of Music, under the direction of Mark Steering. The tryouts for the play will be on Thursday, September 17, 2015, from 3:45pm-5:45pm, in the Music Annex. The Drama Class practice will be held on Mondays and Thursdays from 3:45pm-5:45pm. The play will be presented to the school and families on Thursday, November 19, 2015, at 3:00pm for the School and 7:00 pm for families and the Community. There will be a charge for the evening performance: Families-\$10.00; Adults:\$3.00; and students-\$2.00, to support the PEAK Drama Program. There will be a PEAK Spring Play in April, 2016. \$65.00.

The Portland Police Department will conduct a **GirlStrength Class** on Tuesdays, beginning September 22, 2015 and continuing every Tuesday until November 17, 2015. There is no charge for this Community based program that will be held in Small Gym.

The **PEAK Homework Club** will meet in the Library, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:45pm-5:30pm. Class will begin on September 14, 2015 and run until November 25, 2015. Students will work on improving their time management and organizing skills to complete their homework and class projects. There are computers in the Library for students to use for their class work. \$40.00 for Fall Session.

The **Sewing/Textile Class** will be held in the Art Room with Mrs. Suzanne Bauer as the Instructor. Classes will be on Wednesdays-3:45pm-5:00pm-\$25.00. Class will begin on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 and run until Wednesday, November 25, 2015.

PEAK Computer Classes will be held on Wednesdays in the

Sellwood MacLab from 3:45pm to 5:00pm. Howard Abrams is the Instructor and Parent Volunteer. Learn how to master the web by crafting a Blog, how to use the internet, what is a server, learn code for HTML, CSS, and JAVA. The Class is open to new and experienced users. The first class will be Wednesday, September 16, 2015. \$20.00.

The **PEAK Dance Class** will conduct tryouts on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, September 23, 24, and 25 in the Small Gym, from 3:45pm-5:45pm. PEAK Dance Applications are in the office and on the PEAK Door, Room 214. Students interested in the PEAK Dance Team need to attend all three classes. This is a year long class that meets on Wednesdays and Fridays, 3:45pm-5:45pm and will have Dance Competitions on several Saturdays during the year. \$250.00.

Sellwood PEAK Chess will meet on Tuesdays, 3:45pm-5:00pm, in Room 227. First Chess Class will be Tuesday, 9/22/2015. This is a yearlong class and involves Chess Tournaments that may be held on Saturdays at a variety of locations in the Portland area. \$60.00. Moshe Rachmuth, Instructor and Chess Master.

The **Sellwood PEAK National Geographic Bee** will meet weekly to master facts in geography and prepare for the Local, State and National Geographic Program. The class will be on Tuesday, from 3:45pm-5:00pm, in Room 219, and Mr. True will be the Advisor. The date of the first class is Tuesday, 9/29/2015. This class runs until January, 2016. \$20.00

The **PEAK Cooking Class** will run for five weeks from 3:45pm-5:00pm in Room 119. Dates: 10/28- 11/18-11/24-12/2-12/9-2015. The Class is closed. \$20.00

There will be three **PEAK American Red Cross Babysitting Classes** this school year. The Instructor is a certified by the American Red Cross. Students will receive a Red Cross

Babysitting Card at the end of the class that they can use to present to parents when they babysit. The Babysitting Classes will be held on Teacher Planning Days. The class is limited to ten students. The October 30, 2015, Red Cross Babysitting Class is closed. Classes remain open for: Monday, January 25, 2016, and Friday, April 8, 2016. The Class will run from 8:45am-3:45pm in the Library. Students will need to bring their own lunch.\$80.00 for the Class.

If you have any comments or question contact Rose Mary Price, Sellwood PEAK Coordinator.rprice@pps.net.

PIL Athletics

Registration has closed and we have ninety students running cross country and four volleyball teams for the cluster! Our first cross country meet is today, September 16, at Westmoreland Park following the high school meet. Our first volleyball games will be this Saturday at various PPS high schools. Thanks for all of your support, Sellwood families!

www.ClevelandClusterAthletics.weebly.com

ENews copy must be submitted to Catherine Cleveland by email at: crcleveland@pobox.com ENews goes out on Wednesday. Items must be submitted by the prior Monday at 5 pm to be included.

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